

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 6, 7, 9-15 and 18, 21 and 23 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, and 23 are independent. Claims 1, 11, and 23 are hereby amended. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the specification, specifically at Figures 7, 8, and 9 and on pages 9, 10, and 11. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 6, 7, 9-15, 18, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. The claims have been amended, obviating the rejection.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 6, 9-13 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,133,909 to Schein, et al (hereinafter, merely “Schein”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,547 to Huxley, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Huxley”).

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Schein in view of Huxley and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,598,039 to Livowsky et al.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Schein in view of Huxley and further in view of U.S. Pre Grant Publication No. 2003/0014753 to Beach et al.

Claims 15 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Schein in view of Huxley and further in view of Livowsky.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Schein in view of Huxley and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,463,428 to Lee et al.

IV. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Schein nor Huxley, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest 1). searching electronic-program-guide data from **a plurality of databases**, including an electronic-program-guide database, a movie information database, and a drama information database, and 2). as a function of the **input retrieval keyword** and the **at least one extracted additional keyword**, wherein one of the plurality of databases is accessed in searching for the electronic program guide data as a function of the least one extracted keyword and input retrieval keyword, as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...searching electronic-program-guide data from a plurality of databases, including an electronic-program-guide database, a movie information database, and a drama information database, as a function of the input retrieval keyword and the at least one extracted additional keyword,

wherein one of the plurality of databases is accessed in searching for the electronic program guide data as a function of the least one extracted keyword and the input retrieval keyword.” (Emphasis Added)

Generally, claim 1 relates to a system where a user can enter a keyword. Other search terms relevant to the keyword are then extracted from a database. Using the original keyword and the relevant other terms, one of a plurality of other databases are searched for desired EPG data.

As understood by Applicants, Schein relates to a method and apparatus for searching a guide and using a user’s input of desired program characteristics to identify particular programs that may be of interest to the user.

As understood by Applicants, Huxley discloses a way of searching a data based on misspelled queries, as well as correlating all the alternate names of persons in the database.

Specifically, the Office Action relies on Schein to describe searching an EPG database as a function of the first keyword and at least one other additional keywords. However, the Office Action concedes that Schein does not teach or suggest that additional keywords are extracted as a function of the first keyword.

The Office Action then uses Huxley in an attempt to provide the disclosure missing in Schein. However, Schein and Huxley fail to teach that the additional keywords are extracted as a function of the first keyword and that one of a plurality of databases are searched

as a function of the first keyword AND the at least one additional keyword, which was extracted as a function of the first keyword.

Specifically, the cited portions of Huxley, specifically Figures 36-41 and the associated disclosure, teach that there is one database, see “[t]he database tracks, in addition to actors...” at column 7, lines 1-3. Depending on the genre of the keyword, the one database is searched based on that genre.

Thus, nothing has been found in Schein or Huxley that would teach the above-identified features of claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 11 and 23 are patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11 and 23 are patentable.

V. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Similarly, because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken

as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

CONCLUSION

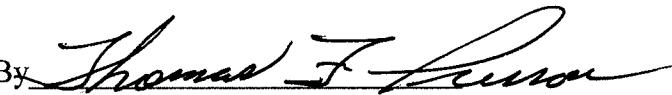
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 
Thomas F. Presson
Reg. No. 41,442
(212) 588-0800